FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 SEPTEMBER 1984

Chad

Libya and France have decided to begin at the "earliest possible time" the "comprehensive and simultaneous withdrawal" of the French Armed Forces and the "Libyan elements" supporting the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), according to a statement issued in Tripoli and Paris cited by JANA. The withdrawal will begin on 25 September, the statement added. Cheysson's Libyan counterpart.

Reacting to the agreement during a stopover in Paris, Chadian Foreign Minister Lassou Gouara stated in remarks broadcast by Paris radio that Chad was "not involved in the discussions" that led to the agreement, and that its first reaction was one of "surprise." Gouara added that he does not trust Libya and requests "guarantees" that Libyan forces will not return.

A Ndjamena radio commentary emphasized that a Libyan troop withdrawal cannot be "warmly welcomed" by Chad if the decision is not "effectively implemented." Chadians "nurse some doubt" and maintain a "judicious reserve" because Libya's "false pullouts" are an "open secret" and the "contradictory and startling" statements by Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on invading Chad are still remembered.

Meanwhile, a GUNT communique broadcast by the clandestine Bardai Chadian National Radio stated that GUNT had been "continually informed" about the Libyan-French discussions regarding the withdrawal of "Libyan elements" and French and Zairian troops. GUNT is "happy" with the agreement, the communique added, because the withdrawal of "French imperialist troops" and "Libyan technicians living in Chad" will allow an "African solution" to the Chadian problem.

Israel

Seven people, including two Arab inhabitants of the "territories," were wounded by shots fired at the Jerusalem-Hebron bus near Bethlehem, Jerusalem television reported. The IDF subsequently imposed a curfew on Al-Khidr village and Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, Jerusalem radio added. Meanwhile, security forces and demonstrators clashed during several "disturbances" near refugee camps in the territories as Palestinians marked the anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre, the radio noted.

In a separate development, Israeli security forces last month arrested several dozen people belonging to the Muslim Brotherhood in the Gaza Strip, Jerusalem radio disclosed. The group is suspected of organizing attacks on Jews and local Arabs, the radio added.

Lebanon

The Cabinet ministers have agreed to refrain from making statements that could harm national unity or cause concern among the people, Prime Minister Rashid Karami disclosed in remarks broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio after the conclusion of the first day of the ministerial "conclave" in Bikfayya. The radio described the agreement as an "honor pact" by which ministers will refrain from "intransigence or outbiddings." Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt welcomed the new "code of ethics" in remarks broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, but he added that it must be implemented "on all levels" and that it will not cancel "our role as an opposition." Junblatt and Amal movement leader Nabih Birri subsequently discussed the results of the conclave with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus, Beirut Radio noted.

Meanwhile, new Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin inspected IDF units in southern Lebanon, according to IDF radio.

French-Jordanian Relations

France is ready to meet all possible Jordanian military needs, French Defense Minister Hernu stated at an Amman press conference reported by the daily *SAWT AL-SHA'B*. Noting that France has missiles similar to the U.S. Stinger, Hernu said that if the Jordanians ask for such weapons, France will not hesitate to supply them.

Inter-Arab Affairs

PDRY-Syria — Before holding lengthy talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, visiting PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that his country will continue to support both Syria and the PLO, Damascus radio reported. He also warned that the "imperialist" military presence in the Red Sea is designed to restore "imperialist hegemony over the Arab region and peddle liquidatory and capitulatory designs."

PLO-Libya — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has sent Libya's Col al-Qadhdhafi a "very important" message on the Palestine issue and the Arab situation, KUNA disclosed.

Afghan-Iranian Border Clash

DRA border guards "crushed" Iranian border troops which penetrated 25 km inside Afghan territory on 10 September, BAKHTAR reported, citing a Kabul security source. Two Iranians were captured in the Nimruz Province clash.

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Intruding Iranian Troops Violate Border Regulations

LD171526 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1245 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, 17 Sep, (BAKHTAR) — According to a report by a security source, a number of armed troops of the Iranian border force, violating border regulations, on 10 September entered 25-km inside the territory of Afghanistan in Dasht-e Trakho region, Chahar Borjak District, Nimruz Province. As a result of their encounter with the border security forces of Nimruz Province, a number of the Iranians were crushed and two were captured. A number of American-made weapons were seized from the aggressors and from the two captured Iranians.

Keshtmand Addresses Council of Ministers Session

LD172024 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, 17 Sep (BAKHTAR) — A routine plenary session of the DRA Council of Ministers was held today in which matters concerning a number of important legal documents, the improvement of reporting work to the Vouncil of Ministers, and the implementation and control of government and party decisions and resolutions by the ministries and state departments were discussed. A number of reports and statements were heard at the Council of Ministers session. After comprehensive discussion, instructions and resolutions on each of them were issued to the ministries and to local organs of state power and administration.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, made a speech in connection with an assessment and approval of legal documents. He based his statement on a quotation from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, who said: The time is ripe for our adjustment of the whole system of law and regulations to match the needs of the people, revolutionary realities, and consideration of the present conditions in the country.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said: The process of drafting a progressive law in the country, which has successfully begun with the victory of the April revolution and in particular its new development stage, is considered as a notable point in the legal history of the country. Maintaining social justice and democratic legality in the socioeconomic and political life of the people has a deep and unbreakable link with the drafting of progressive laws, regulations, and provisions in accord with the conditions in the country. Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand spoke on the shortcomings which exist and specified a number of documents which should be prepared. In today's session, the Council of Ministers adopted a number of important resolutions.

CC Member Addresses Military Gathering in Badakhshan

LD150712 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Brigadier Mohammad Faruq, member of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Political Affairs Section of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, took part in a gathering of officers and troops from Badakhshan Province's Sarandoy Command yesterday at which he presented gifts and commendation letters to a number of heroic officers and men of that command. Before presenting the gifts and commendation letters, Brig. Mohammad Faruq spoke about the principled and progressive policies of the DRA party and government. He also praised the bravery and heroism of the officers and men of Badakhshan Sarandoy command in maintaining peace and security in the province.

Delegation Returns From Bulgarian Celebration

LD141638 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0630 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] Kabul, 14 Sep (BAKHTAR) — Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of communication who had gone to Bulgaria at the head of a delegation to take part in the ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of this country's revolution at the invitation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Communist Party and government today returned to Kabul. At Kabul airport the delegation was welcomed by Dastaghir Panjsheri, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Writers Union, deputy ministers of communication, deputy head of protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Bulgarian Ambassador in Kabul.

Death Sentences for Counterrevolutionaries

LD131335 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Dear listeners of Radio Afghanistan. Letters denouncing the wicked planting of a bomb outside Kabul airport terminal continue to arrive today. We have received many letters from our dear listeners. We are going to broadcast some of them tonight.

Now we read a letter written by judges, lawyers, staff and personnel of the DRA Supreme Court denouncing the criminal deeds of the counterrevolutionaries:

The April revolution, which took place in accordance with the will of the working people of Afghanistan under the leadership of the PDPA, is a starting point for the country's new history in getting rid of socioeconomic backwardness and creating a new society. The actions of the counterrevolutionaries are totally against the Islam religion. The United States and its accomplices, who are perpetrating and organizing inhuman crimes and mass murder in Afghanistan contrary to the human rights declaration and provisions of the Geneva convention, and who take part in subversive action against revolutionary Afghanistan, are regarded as accomplices to the crimes of the criminals in accordance with the provisions of international law. Their actions are punishable in accordance with international law.

We — the judges, lawyers, staff and personnel of the DRA Supreme Court — condemn the criminal actions of the mercenary counterrevolutionaries from the viewpoint of Islamic law and international law. We express our profound hatred and revulsion regarding the planting of a bomb outside Kabul airport

terminal on 31 August 1984. A number of our homeland's children, women, and elderly were martyred or injured as a result of the barbaric actions of the counterrevolutionaries.

Dear compatriot, tonight we again acquaint you with the perpetrators of such events, who were caught by the hand of justice and righteousness. Justice and righteousness have determined the destiny of these criminals. We now acquaint you with the following so that you may (?understand) the nature of the criminals' punishment in the DRA:

One of these criminals was Sayd Ma'sum Shah, son of Qalandershah and an inhabitant of Chandalba'i in Paghman, who had lived in Koshal Maina and was a member of the criminal band of Jami'at. He confessed to the crimes of terrorism, murder, blocking roads, destroying mosques and bridges, and armed uprising against the DRA. He was sentenced to death.

The other one was Sayd Habbollah, son of Sayd Hassan, inhabitant of Qala-e Malik in Paghman, who lived in Wazirabad and was a member of the so-called Jami'at band. He confessed to being the organizer of the criminal Jami'at band, and to the crimes of terrorism, murder, and creating disturbance among society. He was sentenced to death.

The third criminal was Abdol Hai, son of Sher Mohammad, son of Mohammad Ayub and an inhabitant of Afghanistan, Qandahar Province, who had lived in Jada-Maywand and was a member of the Jami'at band. He confessed to the crimes of killing four of our noble compatriots and planting mines in highways. He was sentenced to death.

Another one was Mohammad Yusif Sayad, son of Barat Ali, inhabitant of Khair Khanan Maina and a member of the criminal Jami'at band. He confessed to the crimes of directing a terrorist group, perpetrating terrorist activities, and creating disorder and disturbances among the society. He was sentenced to death.

Jan Aqa, son of Gol Ahmad and an inhabitant of Kabul, trained with a killer band in Pakistan and was a member of the Etehad-e Eslami band. He was sentenced to death for killing two of our noble compatriots, carrying Chinese weapons, undertaking an armed attack against the headquarters of Paghman district, and numerous other criminal actions.

Nazer Hussain, son of Mohammad Hyder and an inhabitant of Ali Khann village, Sorkh-e Parsa district, Parwan Province, confessed to committing the crimes of launching hostile propaganda against the DRA, publishing antigovernment leaflets, imposing fines and collecting money for the so-called Etehad-e Eslami band, having membership in Harakat-e Eslami band, committing armed activities against the government, murdering Sharefa, daughter of Qadam Ali, a student in the 11th grade at Enqlab Lycee and an inhabitant of Qal-e Shada, attempting to murder Soltan Mohammad, an inhabitant of Afshar, and participating in the killing of Nasim, daughter of Mohammad Ashraf and an inhabitant of Dasht-e Berchi. He was sentenced to death.

Another criminal was Abdol Jalil, son of Mohammad Omar, inhabitant of Ghazni and commander of the criminal band of Mahaz-e Milli. He confessed to the following crimes: treacherous recruitment, organizing activities for forced membership into counterrevolutionary bands, cruel and illegal collection of [word indistinct], cruel collection of money under the pretext of donation, plundering villages and hamlets, blocking roads, and the killing of two of our compatriots known as Sarwar and Mohammad Yusof, He was sentenced to death.

Another savage criminal was Abdol Bari, son of Abdol Rahim, inhabitant of Chamchama village, Moqur district, Ghazni Province and head of the organization, invitation and administrative section of the Mahaz-e Milli band.

He confessed to the following crimes: Deserting sacred military service, joining the counterrevolutionaries, transporting weapons and ammunition from Pakistan, cutting communication lines, plundering public property, taking part in armed activities against the DRA, publishing and spreading antigovernment propaganda leaflets, and murdering Ferydon, son of A'smatullah, inhabitant of Moqur district. He was sentenced to death.

Another criminal was Ayamudin, son of Syfudin, inhabitant of Paghman district. He confessed to the following crimes: membership of the Mawlawi Khalis band, taking part in armed activities in Qala-e Wahaid, directing armed members of the band, taking direct part in the killing of two of our noble compatriots, and numerous other crimes. He was sentenced to death.

Another criminal, Abdol Samad, son of Mohammad 'Azem and inhabitant of Char 'Asyab of Kabul, confessed to the following crimes: deserting the sacred teaching duty, setting fire to the Mosa'i school in Kabul Province, having membership in the criminal Hezb-e Eslami and Jami'at-e Eslami, taking part in antigovernment activities, annoying innocent people, and stealing and plundering public property. He was sentenced to death.

Another criminal was Mohammad 'Alam, son of Mer Zaman and inhabitant of Laghman Province, confessed to the following crimes: having membership in the so-called Nejat-e Milli band, waging armed resistance vis-a-vis the security forces, killing two soldiers, Mohammad 'Azem and Khalid, and numerous other criminal actions. He was sentenced to death.

However, dear listeners, what you have heard so far were the faces and the crimes. The crimes deprived the right of happiness to families, the right of the society in which we are living.

In accordance with the provisions of DRA laws prescribing that every person, even if they are such criminals, must have the right of defense in court, after arresting the above people the country's security forces handed them over along with their confessions to the Special Revolutionary Court.

As the guardian of the right of the people, the Special Revolutionary Court, convicted those persons whose hands were soiled with the blood of the people.

Its decisions was implemented so that it will always be kept in the mind of those who in vain embark on crimes and treachery.

More Rebels Condemned

LD140127 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Dear listners of Radio Afghanistan. Letters continue to arrive from our dear compatriots denouncing the planting of a bomb outside the airport terminal by those servants of reaction and imperialism who have sold out. As a result of this bomb, a number of our compatriots, including men, women, elders, youth, and innocent people lost their beloved lives. Tonight we will broadcast only a few of the hundreds of letters we have received as examples. The security forces sever every aggressive hand and the law has been decisively implemented against such criminals. It has thus been applied against the following cowardly midgets:

Ata Mohammad, son of Feda Mohammad, son of Sour Gol, inhabitant of Baraki Barak, Lowgar Province, who lived in Kabul. He had membership in the Jami'at band and was in charge of a terrorist group in Shewaki and Benehesar as well as in the old city and Kohdaman regions. He was sentenced to death by the Special Revolutionary Court for committing terrorist activities and for murdering a number of our compatriots. The death sentence has been carried out.

Mohammad Na'em, son of Mohammad Khetab, son of Sorab, inhabitant of Panjsher, was a member of the criminal Jami'at band. He was ringleader of this murderous band. This cowardly midget was involved in killing innocent people, destroying installations, and setting fire to schools and mosques as well as taking part in many antinational incidents. After the announcement of the court's death sentence, the decision was immediately implemented.

Another criminal was Ni'az Mohammad, son of Raz Mohammad, inhabitant of 'Aoryakhel village of Paghman. He was charged with deserting military service and joining the ranks of the enemies against religion, homeland, revolution, and people, having membership in the Mowlawi Khalis band, abducting one of our compatriots, armed fighting against government forces, and killing a number of our innocent compatriots. He was sentenced to death; the decision of the court was implemented against him in accordance with revolutionary legality.

Mohammad Akbar, alias (?Dakhel), son of Gol Mohammad, son of Abdol Ahad, inhabitant of lower Arghandi of Paghman, was sentenced to death on a charge of having directed and led a group of the Harakat band, the so-called Enqlab-e Eslami. The decision of court was implemented against him. This person had embarked on committing various crimes, including fabrication of false identification cards. He also took part in the killinng of a number of our compatriots. The ruling circles of Iran involved in the fraticide war against Iraq, continuously interfere in the internal affairs of our country and give shelter to Afghan rebels in Mashhad and other cities of Iran. They even make use of a number of our escaped compatriots in the war against Iraq as cannon fodder and cheap labor.

Another demonic savage was Mohamamd Jafar, son of Nader Ali, a servant of the reactionary regime of Iran and a member of the so-called Nohzat-e Eslami. He was sentenced to death for committing various crimes. He was collecting money illegally and by force. He led 30 Iranian terrorists into Afghanistan and took part in activities against the people's tranquility. He murdered one of our compatriots. After a trial, this midget was sentenced to death; the death sentence was carried out.

Dear compatriots. We give you an assurance that the innocent blood of your compatriots, shed by the executioners dependent on imperialism and reaction and by members of the various counterrevolutionary bands, will not be wasted.

Rebels Surrender in Herat Province

LD141742 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] As a result of the enlightening political work of Ghowrmaj unit, Herat Province security forces, 14 people who were mislead by the enemy's hostile and false propaganda and who were armed by the Gulbuddin band and led by Mola Dad Khan, came over to the revolutionary government bringing their weapons with them. They were warmly welcomed by the personnel of the unit.

The leader of this group spoke on behalf of the others and said they are prepared to put all their energy and ability at the disposal of the party and the revolutionary government. In repenting their past deeds they pledged to remedy them. Another seven members of this group who came over to the revolutionary government earlier also gave assurances of serving the people and their homeland.

Provincial Defense Groups Pledge Allegiance

LD160144 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The commanders of revolution defense groups in Qandahar, Helmand, Oruzgan and Zabol Provinces once again expressed their completereadiness to struggle and fight against the counterrevolutionary bands in light of the resolutions of the 13th PDPA Central Committee Plenum.

This support was reiterated at a broad session recently held in a hall of the operational battalion in Qandahar Province.

This session was also attended by the head of the southern zone. Exposing the evil faces of the counterrevolutionaries, the secretary of the provincial party committee in Qandahar explained, was an important role of the revolution defense groups in the heroic fight and struggle for the defense of the homeland and the revolution, and for the construction of a new and blossoming society.

Seven of the commanders of the revolution defense groups from these provinces then spoke about the courageous struggle of their respective revolution defense groups. They gave an assurance about their self-sacrifice and devotion to the restoration of security and a peaceful life for our working people.

The BIA correspondent adds that the head of the southern zone assessed the work of the session. A draft resolution of the session was read out and approved unanimously.

Clandestine Radio on Mujahidin Operations

GF131822 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] The freedom fight of our mujahidin brothers continues with help from God and the unstinted support of the martyr-loving people of Afghanistan in all parts of the country. On the basis of reports received, the mujahidin destroyed an enemy armored tank on the Solang Highway in a surprise attack. They set the tank on fire. Its crew was also killed. In this operation the mujahidin also captured a quantity of small arms as booty.

In another successful attack on a Soviet-Karmal military camp, our mujahidin brothers inflicted heavy losses on the camp. A spokesman for our mujahidin brothers, speaking about the successful attack, said that the mujahidin brothers were informed well in advance that at one military camp in Khvoshi district of Lowgar Province the infidel enemy government was building a new military installation and that it had set up a training camp for the Afghan draftees forced into military service. After due planning the camp was attacked by the bold Muslim fighters; the infidel enemy, as well as the misled mercenaries of the puppet regime, were forced to retreat from their position after a major portion of their installation was destroyed and their personnel were lost. In this operation parts of the camp and its buildings were totally destroyed. Our spokesman was unable to give further details regarding the destruction of the installations due to darkness in the operations sector.

During an interview with the correspondent from the Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan, a number of our mujahidin brothers, referring to the intensity of crimes by the occupationist Soviets in the Islamic country of Afghanistan and the continuation of holy war against the Soviets and the puppet Karmal regime, have described the mujahidin activities. One of these brothers said that although the Soviet occupationists are well equipped with all the war materiel, like modern aircraft and all kinds of arms, including various chemical weapons, because the mujahidin and our Muslim nation are fighting for the values of our religion and Koran, God will bring victory to the mujahidin.

Another brother, who has been fighting for 3 years against the Soviet forces and the Karmal soldiers in various sectors, said that he is willing to sacrifice his life for establishing an Islamic government. He will continue his Islamic jihad until that end is achieved. Another member of the mujahidin, while mentioning the shortage of medical aid in war sectors, called on Afghan physicians to come forward to help their Muslim brothers and sisters in the battlefronts. This brother further said that he requests the Afghan physicians now living outside the country to think of their fighting brothers and come back to their country to help those fighters.

SPA: Afghan Mujahidin Repulse Offensive

LD132115 Riyadh SPA in English 1913 GMT 13 Sep 84

[Text] London, Sept 13, SPA — The Afghan mujahidin have repulsed the Soviet-Karmal offensive in Oruzgan in central Afghanistan and arrested a Karmal Army officer.

The AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS said in a report that the Soviet-Karmal troops attacked the mujahidin center in Harshegli area in Oruzgan Province on August 18.

The strong mujahidin resistance had forced the invaders to retreat and resulted in the arrest of a Karmal military officer, it said. Some important documents were also recovered from the arrested officer, who was later handed over to a court in the liberated area, the agency added.

Karachi: Mujahidin Down Soviet-Karmal Helicopter

BK161546 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that Afghan mujahidin recently shot down a helicopter of the Soviet-Karmal forces when their military helicopters and MIG aircraft bombarded a Mujahidin position at Moqor subdivision of Ghazni Province. In a recent clash with the Soviet-Karmal forces near Shindand in the border province of Farah, the mujahidin also destroyed a jeep and a tank.

Karachi: Retired Afghan Army General Defects

BK181026 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] A retired lieutenant general, Mohammad Nazim, of the Afghan Army, has defected Afghanistan. He is a former commander of the Afghan Army's 7th Division.

Opposition Politician Arrested in Dhaka

BK171352 Hong Kong AFP in English 1343 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 17 (AFP) — A top opposition politican has been arrested for anti-state activities, police said today.

Police said retired Army Colonel Shahriyar, president of the Progressive Democratic Force Party, was picked up from his residence in Dhaka yesterday, questioned, and sent to jail for a month.

Mr. Shahriyar is believed to be one of the young Army officers who took part in the August 15, 1975, bloody coup which overthrew Sheikh Mujib's Awami-Baksal government.

Two of his alleged colleagues then, retired Colonel Rashid Ahmed and Farooq Rahman, are known to be living in Libya.

Press reports early this month reported that a Panamanian ship carrying undeclared arms, detained by Italian authorities, was chartered by two Bangladeshi retired Army men living in Libya. Official spokesmen here denied the reports.

It was not known whether Col. Shahriyar's arrest was connected with them, observers said today.

Mr. Shahriyar founded his party this year and served as its secretary, before becoming its president a few months later following a split.

Press reports today said that after questioning Col. Shahriyar, police raided a house in Gulshan and seized some leaflets and documents apparently published by a clandestine organisation — the Bangladesh Nationalist Council.

Several people in the house were arrested, police said.

Former Minister Released Following Surrender

BK160832 Hong Kong AFP in English 0701 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Dhaka, Sept 16 (AFP) — A former Bangladesh minister, who had evaded trial by the martial law tribunal for 27 months, was released last Thursday, one day after he surrendered to the authorities, official sources said.

Captain Nurual Hao, who headed the Shipping Ministry under the ousted civil government of Abdus Sattar, was freed under a pardon granted by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, the English-language daily, *NEW NATION*, said today.

A former naval chief, Mr. Haq was tried in absentia by the tribunal in June 1982 and was sentenced to seven years in jail for corruption and abuse of his power.

His property was also confiscated.

He returned here from London last Wednesday and immediately gave himself up to a metropolitan magistrate, *NEW NATION* said.

Efforts Underway To Aid Flood-Affected Farmers

BK170928 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The government is making all its efforts to rehabilitate farmers affected by the widespread and unprecedented floods. This was reaffirmed by the minister for agriculture, retired Captain Abdul Halim Chowdhury, in an address over radio and television in Dhaka yesterday evening.

The minister said the devastating floods inundating most of the 460 upazilas [subdistricts] have brought distress to public life and seriously damaged crops which was never witnessed before. He expressed the hope that the special agricultural rehabilitation program taken up by the government will succeed not only in making up the losses, but also in creating employment opportunities for the farm laborers. The minister said floods have damaged boro, aush, aman [varieties of paddy], jute, and other crops and taken a heavy toll of cattle head and destroyed many dwellings.

The minister said to avoid a food crisis, food grains have been procured in cash, as well as with help from the friendly countries.

Gandhi Meets With President Zail Singh

BK171604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, called on President Giani Zail Singh at Rashtrapati Bhawan [President's House] today. The meeting lasted for about 40 minutes.

Gandhi Calls for Global Monetary Conference

BK180342 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, has said that efforts must be made to reconcile the different views of the developed and the developing countries on money and finance for development.

She was referring to a nonaligned proposal for an international conference on this issue. She reiterated that the developing countries strongly believe that the conference is essential to solve the problems of the international monetary and financial systems.

She made these remarks when the report of the 5-member experts' group set up by her to examine the proposal was presented to her in New Delhi by Mr A.M. Khusro, member of planning commission. The other experts are from Algeria, Mexico, Tanzania, and Yugoslavia. Mrs Gandhi said that the report will be sent to heads of state or governments of the nonaligned and of developing countries as well as those of the developed nations.

The experts felt that an international conference as proposed by the New Delhi nonaligned meeting will be the most appropriate step to take a comprehensive look at the existing monetary and financial systems.

BBC: Rama Rao Hopes To Meet With Gandhi

BK171252 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The chief minister of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, who was reinstated yesterday after a month of political wrangling, has said he would like to have a meeting with the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi. He also plans to hold a major rally in the state capital, Hyderabad, on Thursday, when there will also be a vote of confidence in the state assembly. Our correspondent Mark Tully has sent this report from Hyderabad:

[Begin recording] The chief minister told a meeting of legislators supporting him that he had phoned Mrs Gandhi after he was sworn in again. He told the prime minister he was dedicating himself for the development of his state and said he would like to meet her when he was next in Delhi. This seems to indicate that Mr Rama Rao wants to improve his relations with the central government.

He also thanked the legislators for standing by him like a rock, as he put it, but Mr Rama Rao's rival still does not accept the unity of his legislators. Mr Bhaskara Rao told me this morning that he still believed he had a majority in the assembly. [end recording]

Bhaskara Rao Says Colleagues' Homes Attacked

BK171618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The Andhra Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.T. Rama Rao, is seeking a vote of confidence in his ministry on Thursday when the assembly meets. He disclosed this while addressing a meeting of the legislators and Zila Parishad [district council] chairmen and his supporters in Hyderabad today.

Meanwhile, the former chief minister, Mr Bhaskara Rao, has alleged that the houses of some of his former ministerial colleagues were attacked last night.

In Hyderabad, the day curfew will be lifted in all areas tomorrow following further improvement in the situation there. However, the night curfew will continue from 2200 to 0600 in 26 police station areas. The city police commissioner, Mr Prabhakar Rao, told our correspondent that there were no untoward incidents today.

Envoys Stress Need for Good Relations at Beijing Talks

BK170733 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] India and China have pledged to try to solve the border problem and strengthen their relations. This emerged at the meeting between the Chinese foreign minister, Mr Wu Xueqian, and the leader of the India delegation for the Sino-Indian talks, Mr Natwar Singh, in Beijing yesterday.

Mr Singh, who is also the secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, told the Chinese foreign minister that the two countries should not allow the past to come in the way of their future relations.

During the hour-long friendly and cordial meeting, Mr Natwar Singh said that India attaches great importance to its relations with China. This is necessary not only for the welfare of the peoples, but also for the peace and stability in Asia and the world. He also gave the foreign minister a brief account of India's relations with its neighbors and its activities as chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement.

Mr Wu said China also wants good relations with India and believes that an acceptable solution to the boundary question is possible. He referred to the Pancasila formula by Mr Nehru and Mr Zhou Enlai and said that the two countries must restore their relations to the level of the 1950's. They pointed out that the recent trade agreement between the two nations is an important development in bilateral relations.

The fifth round of border talks begins in Beijing today. The Chinese side will be led by the adviser to the foreign minister, Mr Gong Dafei. Leaders of both delegations have expressed the hope

for reaching an agreement, at least on the basic principles. They felt that after the current discussions, the two sides may go into the specific issues at the next round.

The Chinese delegation last night hosted a banquet in honor of its Indian counterpart.

Subgroups To Be Formed
BK171410 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] The fifth round of Sino-Indian official level border talks began in Beijing today. The two sides have made their respective presentations on various aspects of their bilateral relations, including the border issue.

The two sides have agreed to form four subgroups to deal with the boundary question, cultural cooperation, scientific and technical exchanges, and questions of property and assets. Mr Natwar Singh also reviewed the progress made in Sino-Indian talks in the fields of culture, science and technology, and trade since the last round of talks held in New Delhi in last October. According to NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY, the heads of the delegations met again along with their respective subgroups to exchange views on the border issue.

Tibetan Group Protests Border Talks With PRC
BK171636 Hong Kong AFP in English 1626 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 17 (AFP) — More than 150 Tibetans today started a 24 hour hunger strike in front of the Chinese Embassy here, in protest against border talks between China and India in Beijing, a group spokesman said.

Spokesman Jamyang Sherap said the fast would end early tomorrow. He said the group, which is associated with the Dalai Lama, had sent an open letter to Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang saying that China had no authority to determine the boundary between Tibet and India.

Though India officially recognises Tibet as part of China, New Delhi has given political asylum to the Dalai Lama and over 100,000 Tibetans, since they fled their homeland in 1959 following an unsuccessful uprising against the Chinese.

SRV Ambassador Comments to Press on Delegation
BK171427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Vietnam's ambassador to India, Mr Nguyen Quang Tao, said in New Delhi today that his country highly appreciates Indian assistance for the development of Vietnam's economy. He hoped that the economic cooperation will be extended to new areas. He was speaking to newsmen on the eve of the visit to India of a high-power Vietnamese delegation led by Mr Le Duan, secretary general of the Central Committee of Vietnam's Communist Party.

Mr Le Duan, who is the top-ranking Vietnamese leader, is coming to India on a 6-day visit beginning Friday.

This is his first visit to any country outside the socialist bloc.

Opposition Party Leader on Electoral Tactics
BK161640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party president, Mr Vajpayee, has said that he is not in favor of the merger of opposition parties into a single unit to contest the coming elections.

Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said any such move is impractical. However, his party is ready for seat adjustments and joint campaigns on the basis of an agreed minimum program, he said.

Entire Northeast Cut Off After Flash Floods
BK171246 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The entire northeastern region remained cut off from the rest of the country for the 2d day today following flash floods in more areas of Assam.

The Army and Air Force personnel assisted the civil authorities in conducting relief and rescue operations in Kamrup and Barpeta Districts. Food packets were airdropped in the remote areas.

Pakistani Opposition To Boycott March Elections
BK170942 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] The leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party, Miss Benazir Bhutto, has said that her party, along with other opposition parties, have decided to boycott the elections proposed to be held by the Zia regime by March next year.

Addressing public meetings in Scotland, she said the purpose of holding them was to provide legitimacy to the military regime. Miss Bhutto accused the Zia regime of resorting to barbaric measures to terrorize the people of Pakistan.

Ziaul Haq on Relations With India, Afghanistan

BK171617 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has reiterated that Pakistan will continue its peace efforts to improve relations with India. He was talking informally to newsmen in Islamabad this afternoon. The president said that reports about a preemptive Indian attack in collusion with Israel on Pakistan's nuclear installations were incorrect, but that we had sought a few clarifications about reports eminating from CIA.

He said in his view there was no truth in the conjecture that the United States will exploit Pakistan's apprehension of an attack on its nuclear installations and ask Pakistan to provide it with bases to protect these installations. He said this was not true because the United States had never contacted Pakistan for this purpose, and Pakistan was unwilling to give any foreign power or any other power any base. Pakistan had made this clear. He said Pakistan for its part has taken all necessary measures for the security and protection of the nuclear installations.

The president said there has been no thaw in Pakistan-India relations for the past 30 years, but we have been trying for the past 5 years to improve relations between the two countries and to remove obstacles in this process. We have taken unilateral and bilateral measures in this connection. The president expressed the hope that India will have no misunderstanding about Pakistan and that it will not take any step which might lead to the deterioration of the situation and invite conflict.

About Rajiv Gandhi's statement that Pakistan will soon launch an attack on India, the president, refuting the statement, said that,on the contrary, Pakistan was conducting a peace offensive with India. Answering a question, he said no date has been fixed for foreign secretary level talks between India and Pakistan.

About the situation on Siachen Glacier bordering Indian-held Kashmir, the president said it was not a demarcated area and that there was no line of control. Both countries' Armed Forces face each other in the region and that is why there is an occasional exchange of fire. However, local commanders of both sides have met, and they will meet again soon. Pakistan is in touch with India to resolve this dispute. He said he felt that if such a situation is not resolved then it could prove to be dangerous.

Answering a question, the president said the situation on the western front is not satisfactory following recent aggressive acts by Afghanistan. However, there is no cause for anxiety concerning the situation on Pakistan's eastern border.

About Babrak Karmal's statement that Afghanistan had the right of hot pursuit in case of an attack by mujahidin, the president said there was also a limit to patience and restraint so far as Pakistan was concerned. Referring to the intensification of the Soviet drive against mujahidin in Afghanistan, the president said any such action that causes the internal situation in Afghanistan to deteriorate and subjugates the Afghan people will be a matter of extreme concern not only for Pakistan but for the entire free world.

About Pakistan's policy toward Israel, the president said it should be seen in light of Pakistan's stand on Palestine. Pakistan for last 30 years had been championing the cause of Palestinians and will continue to follow this policy.

Answering a question, the president said the schedule for holding elections in Pakistan was in no way concerned with elections in the United States or India.

Ziaul Haq Inaugurates Seminar on Islamic Solidarity

BK171144 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has called for complete unity and solidarity of the Islamic ummah [community] in order to play an enhanced role in helping to promote peace and harmony in the world. He was inaugurating the 4-day international seminar on Islamic Solidarity Is Essential for World Peace in Islamabad today. Organized by the Motamar-al-Alam-al-Islami [World Muslim Congress], the seminar is being attended by over 200 delegates from all over world.

The president said the Islamic message of peace is not only of eternal value but it is more than ever relevant to the conditions prevailing in today's world. The need for promoting understanding and good will among the nations has become paramount, he added. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said formidable challenges confront the ummah today. The political and security climate in the world is characterized by hypertensions and escalating arms race, increasing recourse to force in interstate relations, and growing disregard for the right of small nations by the big powers whether regional or global.

NEPAL

King Administers Oaths to New Officials

BK171542 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] By command of his majesty the king, Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand, at a special function graced by his majesty the king, administered the oath of office to the new Ministers Rudra Bahadur Giri, Harish Chandra Mahar, and Parshu Narayan Chaudhary; Ministers of State Labru Rana Tharu, Hiralal Biswokarma, Badri Prasad Mandal, Lilaraj Bista; and Assistant Ministers Ram Dhyan Raya, Narbahadur Hirachand, and Mohan Lal Prasad Chaudhary.

In the same manner, by command of his majesty the king, Chairman of the Raj Sabha Standing Committee Bhupal Man Singh Karki administered the oath of ex officio Raj Sabha membership to the newly appointed Ministers Rudra Bahadur Giri, Harish Chandra Mahar, and Parshu Narayan Chaudhary.

This was stated in a notice issued today by the principal press secretariat of his majesty the king.

New Cabinet Lineup Detailed

BK170818 Hong Kong AFP in English 0753 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Katmandu, Sept 17 (AFP) — Nepalese Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand today reshuffled his Cabinet in what observers saw as a move to win support from criticial factions within the legislature.

Among those newly inducted by King Birendra was Minister of State Parsu Narayan Chaudhary, commerce minister since last June and former secretary-general of the banned Nepali Congress, the official Nepalese radio announced. His induction into the Cabinet is seen as a step to win the support of Mr Chaudhary's faction for the partyless system in Nepal's Panchayat (legislature).

Mr Chand's Cabinet now includes all factions bar that of former premier Surya Bahadur Thapa who tried to oust him in a no-confidence vote in July.

Bishnu Maden, state minister for law and justice, and assistant ministers Bhola Man Singh Thapa, Tanka Bahadur Bista and Surbir Shahi were dropped from the Cabinet.

These were the first Cabinet changes made by Prime Minister Chand since he came to power just over a year ago by toppling Surya Bahadur Thapa in a vote of no confidence against him in the national Panchayat.

Full Cabinet Listed

BK170820 Hong Kong AFP in English 0756 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Katmandu, Sept 17 (AFP) — The Nepalese Cabinet following reshuffle:

Lokendra Bahadur Chand — prime minister, defence and palace affairs
Rudra Bahadur Giri — communications
Jog Mehar Shrestha — panchayat and local development
Harish Chandra Mahar — (a new entrant) public work and transportation
Padma Sundar Lawate — home
Pashupati Shumshere R.B. Rana — water resources
Narayan Dutta Bhatta — industry
Padma Bahadur Khatri — foreign
Damber Narayan Yadav — health
Prakash Chandra Lohani — finance
Hem Bahadur Malla — agriculture
Parshu Narayan Chaudhary — commerce (new)

The following are state ministers:

Phatya Singh Tharu — education and cultural
Shree Prashad Budhathoki — tourism, labours social welfare
Labru Rana Tharu — land reform (new)
Hiralal Biswokarma — supply (new)
Badri Prasad Mandal — forest and land conservation (new)
Radheshyam Kamaro — law and justice (new)
Lila Raj Bishta — general administration (new)

The following are assistant ministers:

Bidhya Devi Devkota — health
Kedar Rai — supply (new)
Niranjan Thapa — panchayat and local development
Mukunda Bahadur Basnyet — commerce
Ram Dhyan Raya — home (new)
Nara Bahadur Hirachan — transportation (new)
Mohan Lal Prashad Chaudhary — agriculture (new)

Foreign Minister Comments on Relations With PRC

BK161532 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The foreign minister, Padma Bahadur Khatri, has said free of any irritation or tension, Nepal-China relations may be cited as a model friendship between a major power and a small neighbor.

Mr Khatri was speaking at a talk program on characteristics of China's foreign policy and Nepal-China relations organized by Nepal Center of World Affairs.

He said true to the principles of peaceful coexistence, which govern and guide the relations between our two countries, China has always shown full understanding to Nepal's aspirations and needs.

The generous Chinese assistance to our development efforts and, in particular, China's firm and positive support to Nepal's zone of peace proposal, is greatly appreciated by the Nepali people, he added.

He said frequent exchange of views and visits are manifestations of our joint efforts to develop still better understanding and beneficial cooperation.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene on Citizenship for 'Stateless' Indians

BK161653 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] The Sri Lanka Government is to grant citizenship to 95,000 stateless people of Indian origin. It will send back to India 100,000 others who had opted for Indian citizenship under the India-Sri Lanka pact. This was announced by President Jayewardene while addressing the Ceylon Workers Congress convention in Colombo today. He also pledged to take measures to improve the living conditions of the state workers. The 100,000 people to be repatriated to India are those who have been awaiting clearance of their dues from the Sri Lankan Government. The 95,000 stateless people had not been covered under the pact between the two countries. The Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka, Mr S.J.S. Chatwal, was also present at the function.

President Discusses Democracy, National Unity

BK151252 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Democracy has never been restored in countries where it has been destroyed. It is like a weak tree which has to be constantly watered and manured if it is to be preserved. Therefore, it was essential to preserve peace and safeguard the sovereignty of the nation. These observations were made by President Jayewardene yesterday. The occasion was 1984 Kalasuri award presentation at the Town Hall theater in Colombo.

The president said there was no peace in the north. Some elements were trying to create similar situation in the other parts of the island. We should be careful not to be misled by such elements. He reiterated that if the people wanted to overthrow his government, they could do so at another election. They will not be able to change his government by any other method. If that happened, it would be the end of democracy in Sri Lanka. As the head of government, the president emphasised that he was requesting all communities to join hands to protect the unity of the country and suppress any move to divide it. He paid a glowing tribute to the prime minister, who he said was solely responsible for the arts being revived after several years of neglect under successive governments since independence.

National Security Minister Discusses Terrorism

BK151256 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has said that the people in the north are now vehemently opposing bomb explosions in their area. Speaking at the annual prize giving of the girls high school at Mulkimelia yesterday, he said it was the duty and responsibility of everyone to act with an awareness of defense activities in Sri Lanka; particularly, all schoolchildren should be made aware of the defense activities in the country. Terrorism, the minister pointed out, was the maximum stage of killings and robbery. Terrorists who were engaged in these activities finally say that all these are being done to achieve a political objective. Our aim is to create a just society by overcoming violence. This is not a fight against Tamils, but a war against violence.

Mr Athulathmudali emphasized that we should not be afraid of the future because we have a nation prepared to dedicate their services for the unity and sovereignty of the country. The minister said that a certain country has expressed shock at the Vayunia incident. He said that he was also shocked at the killing of several bus passengers by religious group in that country.

Further Comments by Athulathmudali

BK171126 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Those who try to solve problems through arms will finally end up in jail or in death. The terrorists have made Tamil Nadu as their center for training and to conduct trials on bomb explosion. The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has said that no room will be left for these terrorists to center Sri Lanka. They will have to live in Tamil Nadu. The minister was addressing a public meeting at Kudagammana in the Dambadeniya electorate. The objective of the terrorists was to provoke the Sinhala community. The minister has said that he appealed to them not to be misled by such activities. They should also unite in this ardent task putting aside political differences.

Delhi: 2 Policemen Killed by Land Mine

BK171558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] In Sri Lanka, two policemen were killed and four others wounded today when a land mine planted by militants exploded in the northern province of the island. According to the Information Ministry, the policemen were patrolling by a jeep at Kilinochchi near Jaffna when the blast occurred.

Terrorists Killed in Incident

BK181104 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 84

[Text] The security forces are still searching for terrorists, injured or killed, following an exchange of fire between the police and the terrorists at Kilinochchi yesterday. A number of terrorists were killed during the incident (?the same afternoon). The exchange of fire occurred following the explosion of a bomb on the road. Two police officers, a sergeant and a police driver, died as a result of this explosion. The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation this morning that the terrorists were not able to take any weapons belonging to the police. Meanwhile, two terrorists were killed in another incident that took place at Cheddikulam in the Mannar District.

Khomeyni Receives Families of Martyrs, POW's

LD171408 Tehran IRNA in English 1350 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, here today received a group of families of martyrs, POWs, those missing in action and also staff of the War Information Headquarters and the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY at Jamaran mosque.

During the meeting the head of the Martyrs Foundation and Imam Khomeyni's representative at the foundation, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi, on behalf of the imam thanked families of martyrs and POWs for their devotion and self-sacrifice. The founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran then responded to the enthusiasm of the visitors.

Four Constituencies Elect Majlis Deputies

LD151917 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] The Interior Ministry announced today the results of the Majlis by-elections held in the four constituencies of Varezhqan, Fasa, Moghan, and the Armenians of the country's southern regions on the auspicious day of 'Id Ghadir Khom [14 September]. The results are as follows:

In Moghan constituency, Mr Motalleb Dashti-Tulir gained 16,100 votes of a total vote of 38,871.

In Fasa constituency, Mr Ahmad Beheshti gained 15,870 votes of a total of 27,449 votes. In the constituency for our Armenian compatriots in the country's southern regions, Mr Artavas Baghumian gained 2,622 of a total of 4,335 votes. In Varezqan constituency, Mr Shaboddin Bimeqdar gained 6,951 votes of a total of 14,109 votes.

These four candidates, chosen by the inhabitants of the abovementioned constituencies, have thus been elected as Majlis deputies.

Montazeri Upholds 'Well-Meant Criticism'

LD172107 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept, 17, IRNA — In a meeting with visiting members of the Command Council of District One of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps and of the Command Council of the corps in the city of Qom on Sunday, Ayatollah Montazeri addressed himself to the government organs at large, calling on them to be receptive to well-meant criticism, even though it should come from one's inferiors in rank.

He said once the people in authority should resent criticism and take delight only in being flattered such a practice would serve to bring to power a group of apple-polishers, flatterers, and characteristically weak and inefficient people at the cost of pushing away from the scene the people better qualified for the administration of the affairs. He said such a situation would serve to "rotten the revolution in core."

The ayatollah reminded that unlike the common practices at the time of shah, which were characterized by intimidation, in the Islamic Republic the authorities should welcome well-meant criticism and appreciate it from the people.

Reportage on Pilgrimage Incident in Mecca

Iranians, Iraqis Clash

GF150620 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Sep 84

[Text] The correspondent of the Central News Agency of the radio and television of the Islamic Republic of Iran reported from Mecca that yesterday afternoon a group of Iranian pilgrims visited one of the Saudi police stations and complained against the blatant discrimination practiced by Saudi authorities against pilgrims of various countries. These complaints were made after Saddam's pictures were put up on the building of the Iraqi pilgrimage delegation and on Iraqi cars despite the claims of Saudi security officers that such acts are forbidden. The reports added that the Saudi authorities have imposed various media sanctions on the Iranian pilgrims while the agents of the Baghdad regime enjoy various media facilities.

The chief of the Saudi police claimed to know nothing of these incidents, saying it will be discussed with other officials. The reports added that after leaving the police station, the Iranian pilgrims were attacked by a group of approximately 150 Saddamist regime lackeys who were carrying clubs and sticks. The Saudi security forces gave every assistance to the Ba'thist agents and did not take any measure to arrest the aggressors, but, instead, attempted to arrest a number of protesting Iranian pilgrims. A number of Iranian pilgrim brothers were wounded during this attack and have been transferred to the hospital.

Foreign Ministry Protests

LD150652 Tehran IRNA in English 0644 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 15, IRNA — The Iranian Foreign Affairs Ministry at 00:30 hours Saturday summoned the Saudi Arabian charge d'affaires to Tehran and presented him a four point protest note on the brutal attack of Iraqi agents against Iranian hajj pilgrims in the holy places.

During the meeting, in which Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati and political director general for Arab and African countries Lavasani were present, the Saudi charge d'affaires was informed that one of the Iranian hajj pilgrims wounded in the attack by the Iraqis had been martyred. The Saudi officials were asked why the Saudi police which would forcefully disperse smallest gatherings, had kept silent about the brutal acts of the Iraqi agents.

He was also told that this measure was taken by those who had been slapped in the face by the magnificent demonstrations of Muslims in Mecca and Medina. Besharati told the Saudi charge d'affaires that the Iranian Foreign Ministry, severely condemning such an inhumanistic and non-Islamic act, calls for the speedy implementation of the protest note. The four points of the letter of protest are: condemnation of such a dreadful act, arrest of the

convicts, their trial and punishment, and informing the Islamic Republic of the measures taken in these respects.

Guidance Minister Issues Statement

LD151158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Following the martyrdom of an Iranian pilgrim during a brutal attack on Iranian pilgrims by Iraqi Ba'thist agents in the holy shrines Minister of Islamic Guidance Mohammad Khatami has issued the following statement:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The premeditated crime committed by the mercenaries of the ruling regime in Iraq, which was carried out with the support of Saudi Arabian government officials in holy Medina, wounded the hearts of Muslims, particularly those of the pilgrims to the House of God. No crime is beyond Saddam Husayn, that agent of Zionist arrogance who is assigned to counter and denigrate the Islamic Revolution and Muslim dignity. Nevertheless, the Saudi Arabian Government must answer the question about the mystery of the anger of the officials of that government against the sacred shouts of Muslims against America and Israel. Why is it that they cause difficulty and assault God's guests, who try to free themselves of dualists and infidels, while they give a free hand to Saddam Husayn's mercenaries and actually help them shed the blood of enemies of America and Zionism?

The Saudi Arabian government is answerable with regard to this shameless crime which took place in Saudi Arabia — a crime which resulted in the martyrdom of a committed and Muslim brother and injury to a number of Muslim brothers and sisters. We assure you that the nation and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran will not treat this tragedy lightly.

At this juncture we demand that the Saudi Arabian Government investigate the incident and arrest and punish heavily the perpetrators of this shameless and blatant crime. Meanwhile, we hold the Saudi Arabian Government responsible for any incident which might result from the anger of the Iranian pilgrims as well as of other Muslims in response to any negligence of the Saudi Arabian Government inmost decisively treating this crime.

In the meantime, we draw the attention of the Saudi Arabian government to the fact that just as the attacks and assaults and imprisonments by the Saudi Arabian Government during recent years failed to foil the Muslims' endeavors to carry out their divine mission, that of liberating themselves of the dualists and the arrogant ones, the new ploy by the lackeys of colonialists also will not only fail to stop this gigantic movement, but will increase the anger of the awakened, particularly Muslim, revolutionary Iran,against arrogance, Zionism, and their associates.

Saudis Arrest Pilgrim's Attacker

LD151733 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 15 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Medina, Sept. 15, IRNA — One Iranian pilgrim who was badly battered in by a group of Iraqi security agents passed away at a hospital here Friday [14 September]. Haj Ali Seyyedi was among a group of Iranian pilgrims who had protested against the hanging of Saddam Husayn's portrait in front of the headquarters of the Iraqi pilgrims because the Saudi Government had not permitted the headquarters for the Iranian pilgrims to hang Imam Khomeyni's portrait in front of the entrance gate. The Saudi Government claims to have arrested three agents of the Iraqi Government who are said to have been involved in the fatal beating of the Iranian pilgrim.

In Mecca an Iranian official in charge of the hajj ceremonies said on Thursday that all Iranian pilgrims would return home by October 4th. Iranian pilgrims to Mecca are expected to leave the city by September 18th.

Commentary Discusses Hajj Incident

GF161420 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The rulers of Iraq have presented us with more proof of their disregard for Islamic values and their desecration of Islamic holy shrines. In the month of hajj, during which God has forbidden killing, and near the holy house of God designated as a place for refuge and security, and at the spot to which fly the hearts of the faithful from the east and west — in this holy place the rulers of Iraq threw their final arrow. They instigated the agents of their intelligence service, who came to Mecca under the pretext of performing the hajj, to clash with the pilgrims of the holy house of God and to create tension in this holy place.

The fighting which was carried out with fists and weapons caused injuries to hundreds and the martyrdom of one of the Iranian brothers. All this happened in front of the very eyes of the Saudi police who did not intervene to end the fighting. If the Saudi police did intervene periodically, its intervention was for the benefit of the Iraqi intelligence service agents.

This small incident reminds us of a historical event that took place in the same place more than 14 centuries ago, when the forces of Yazid Ibn Mu'awiyah entered Mecca and violated the sanctity of this holy place. This was the first act of sacrilege against the holy house of God in Islamic history. Saddam Husayn and his wicked henchmen followed Yazid's path and repeated sacrilege against the dignity of the holy house of God.

Here, we pause for a while to examine this criminal incident and to note some observations. No one except the imperialists and Zionists could have been behind this vicious hostile act, because it followed the mammoth marches in Medina and Mecca. Thousands of pilgrims of various nationalities participated in these marches, and they had one voice with which the skies of Mecca and Medina reverberated. The pilgrims denounced the imperialist-Zionist plot against the Islamic nation. This brave voice has annoyed the imperialists and provoked their puppets, the rulers of Iraq, who readily implement the imperialists' orders and fill their hearts with love of revenge.

The Ba'thist aggression against the pilgrims of the holy house of God coincided with events on the political arena where there has

been an extensive Islamic movement to dislodge the Zionist enemy from the United Nations. The rulers of Iraq fear that the Islamic Republic might win this round, as it would be a big political and psychological achievement as well as the attainment of a goal against the Zionist enemy. This is what is feared by the imperialist circles and their accomplices, such as the Saddam Husayn regime.

The third observation is that, during the past hajj seasons, the hostile media tried to put various labels on the Iranian pilgrims and the Islamic stand for the purpose of depicting the Islamic Republic as the instigator of disturbances at the holy places. Every time, reality shone in the darkness of lies and trickery, revealing that Iranian pilgrims were not prepared to respond to the provocations of the Saudi police in the past years because of their respect for the holy shrines.

This year, the Saudi Government was more aware of the situation and prevented provocations. Throughout the marches in Medina and Mecca, nothing appeared to disturb security or violate the sanctity of the holy shrines. This proved the stand of the Islamic Republic and its truthful objectives in making the voices of the oppressed heard by the world during the hajj seasons and in making pilgrimage an integrated action. The Islamic Republic does not want to harm anybody or to provoke anyone. All it wants is to translate this worship into practice in order to carry out its duty in uniting the nation against the common enemy.

This annoyed the rulers of Iraq. What annoyed them even more this year was the cohesion of the rest of the pilgrims with the Iranian pilgrims and their participation in the big marches, ignoring the hostile media. They saw with their own eyes how the Islamic stand overcame their deceitful propaganda, how the Iranian pilgrims were able to participate in peaceful marches without any obstacles, and how they were able to lead the pilgrims this year toward resolute confrontation with international imperialism and their allies. They saw all this with eyes full of fury and hearts determined to explode the situation. This actually happened yesterday [13 September] when they committed acts of aggression against a group of Iranian pilgrims.

The final observation which we must note here is connected with the Saudi stand. It used to condemn the voicing of any calls by pilgrims, whoever they were, on the pretext that such calls undermine security and stability, and on the pretext that the Saudis are the custodians of the holy shrines and that it is their responsibility to protect the pilgrims. However, we find that this stand changed quickly yesterday. The Saudis were spectators during the Iraqi aggression. Indeed, they even were on the side of the aggressors at times.

How did this happen? What is the difference between these two stands — between the Saudi stand of being against any call denouncing the United States and its stand yesterday in supporting those who carried weapons against unarmed pilgrims? Are they not the protectors of the holy shrines as they claim? Are the lives of the pilgrims and their comfort not a trust in the hands of the Saudi government? Why then did it neglect its duty yesterday?

If the Saudis do not admit that they neglected their duty in confronting the Ba'thist aggression, we demand that they investigate this blatant aggressive act and catch the criminals who killed an innocent soul in the holy month and in the holy place, an innocent soul who had not committed any crime. We demand and insist that they perform this duty in accordance with divine law and the Saudi constitution. Failing this, the holy places will be unsafe, the life of pilgrims will be absolutely unsafe, and every pilgrim will have the right to prepare himself for emergencies. This will cost the Saudi Government a great deal in terms of the effect on its reputation and its ability to secure stability in the hajj seasons. Naturally, the Saudis do not want this.

Kho'iniha Criticizes Saudi Government

LD162153 Tehran IRNA in English 1905 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Medina, Sept. 16, IRNA — Imam Khomeyni's representative to the hajj ceremonies, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'iniha, said here today that attacks by yet unidentified Iraqis against a group of Iranian pilgrims here last Thursday [13 September] was "designed upon the order of the United States and engineered by a people who have been as though slapped in the face by political gestures during the hajj."

The Iranian official who spoke to reporters from IRNA and the Toronto-based Crescent International said the Saudis had been going a long way distorting the facts of the Islamic faith according to their own peculiar interpretations which have colonialistic connections and do not necessarily have to be followed by other Muslims.

He said the presence in Mecca and Medina of Iranian pilgrims had in fact instilled political blood in the veins of the ritual awakening other Muslims and shattering age-old beliefs on the spiritual limits and implications of the greatest of the Muslims' congress.

Despite open Saudi Arabia's resentment against the political outcries of the Iranian pilgrims, Kho'iniha said, other Muslims were gradually heeding the Iranian stand on the full implications of the hajj ritual.

He harshly criticised the Saudi Government for deliberately "effacing" much of the historic and religiously valuable sites and remains of the glorious days of the early Islam in Saudi Arabia. Among them, he added, is the 'Baqi' cemetery as well as the tomb of 'Abuzar', Imam Ali's close associate.

The Saudi Government was also deliberately neglectful about the tombs of the early martyrs of Islam who fought against pagan groups, he said.

Said the hojjat ol-eslam: "Tens of valuable Muslim memorials are being gradually destroyed by the unqualified Saudi Government. We hope to follow up the issue and make other Muslims stand against this imperialistic policy."

Ministry Statement on Sabra-Shatila Anniversary

LD162031 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 16 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 16, IRNA — On the second anniversary of the massacre of Palestinian refugees at the Sabra and Shatila camps in West Beirut the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic issued a statement calling on all Muslims in Lebanon to continue their struggle against the Zionist invaders in the south of the country.

It said such a struggle should only be based on Islamic faith in order to lead to the liberation of Palestine.

The statement added that the silence of the international community and lack of action by Muslim countries had increased Zionist aggression in southern Lebanon such that part of the country "has been practically separated from the rest".

The recent United States veto against an anti-Zionist resolution at the United Nations Security Council was also criticised as an impudent move.

While sharing grief with the families of martyrs of the Sabra and Shatila massacre and the innocent people of Palestine, the Islamic Republic Foreign Ministry once again emphasised on the need for a popular mobilisation of the Islamic ummah and the continuation of struggle based on Islamic faith as the only solution for the liberation of Palestine.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,853

LD171636 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 17 Sep 84

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 17, IRNA — Nine weaponry emplacements and observation posts, four tanks, and two trucks carrying personnel were demolished and 11 enemy soldiers were killed or wounded in the Western fronts during the past 24 hours. Announcing this, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces further said in its Communique No. 1,853 released today that Iraqi logistic activities and movements were halted as the Islamic combatants zeroed in on the enemy mortorised columns, logistic routes and positions, in these fronts.

In the northwestern fronts, the Islamic defenders checked the Iraqi patrol activities and in Chuman Mostafa and the heights opposite Kani Manga the movement of Iraqi vehicles were disturbed and twenty Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and 11 weaponry emplacements were destroyed.

All Iraqi activity east of Basra, west of Arvand River and Majnun Islands, was halted during the past day. Exchange of fire was more intense in Shahrani, Zayd and Kuskh regions. Six various bunkers of the enemy were smashed west of Arvand River.

Abadan came under the Iraqi long-range fire during the past 24 hours as a result of which three houses and seven shops were damaged, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.